

**MR. JEFFREY G. LANTZ**

***In his own Words***

Shipping is global; consequently solutions to shipping's problems must be global. Since its founding in 1958 IMO has and continues to be the premier international body that brings together the world's nations to cooperatively ensure safe, secure, environmentally sound and sustainable shipping that meets the world's needs. As Secretary General I will ensure that this legacy continues.

I will faithfully and forcefully defend IMO's role and position, not simply to retain its established position, but to be a leader in the world; to highlight shipping's contribution to society, the world economy and the welfare of the world's citizens. Globalization is not possible without shipping. The world must see shipping as the provider of fresh food, energy and other vital commodities in the most efficient, safe, secure, and environmentally friendly manner of all transportation modes.

IMO is facing many legislative challenges; the most acute being environmental as manifested by increasing demands for new, tougher IMO regulations, which reflects society's continuing and increasing concern for the environment. Often these increased demands collide with concerns for improved standards of living or technological advancements. IMO must include the considerations of all members and develop solutions that can be widely embraced. The maritime industry is one industry; regional and unilateral impositions are detrimental, they distort markets and diminish globalized trade. Most importantly, they do not provide the international solution that meets society's demands. As Secretary General I will work tirelessly and diplomatically with all members to help bridge gaps and arrive at solutions that are broadly accepted, inspire technology and continue the growth of the industry.

As IMO rightfully enhances the international safety, security and environmental protection requirements in its mandatory instruments, we must not lose sight of the varied implementation and compliance with these instruments. Ultimately the maritime industry is judged on its overall performance and while we can continue to raise standards that are easily met by the highest

performers, increased implementation with increased compliance with all requirements will improve overall industry performance. IMO has been addressing capacity building implications for some time and more recently it has begun considering capacity building implications with regard to new mandatory requirements. As Secretary General, I pledge to continue these efforts for capacity building and remain committed to examining all available means to assist those countries that need it, to build their capacity and competency to implement IMO instruments.

The recent financial crisis has dramatically affected the world with impacts far and wide in both business and government. IMO is not immune. It's also clear that IMO's workload will not decrease, and in fact may increase as we continue to enhance the safety, security and environmental performance of shipping. As Secretary General, I will remain committed to working with the IMO members to work within a budget reflecting today's financial climate by proactively prioritizing the work in line with the strategic and high level action plans in order to achieve the desired results. I will continue developing and providing transparent results based budgets to ultimately guide us to maximize the return on investment for all member states.

As Secretary General I will provide strong positive leadership with quality management and together with the very dedicated Secretariat staff, we will continue to meet the needs of all members.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'JG Smith', is positioned in the lower right area of the page.